## **U.S. Department of Justice**



United States Attorney
District of Maryland

Thomas M. DiBiagio United States Attorney Northern Division 6625 United States Courthouse 101 West Lombard Street Baltimore, MD 21201-2692 410-209-4800 TTY/TDD:410-962-4462 410-209-4856 FAX 410-962-0693

Southern Division 400 United States Courthouse 6500 Cherrywood Lane Greenbelt, MD 20770-1249

301-344-4433 301-344-4422 FAX 301-344-4516

MAY 20, 2003 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION CONTACT
VICKIE LEDUC
410-209-4885

## GUILTY PLEA IN ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE MURDER

Greenbelt, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced today that Robin Caroline Chaney age 37, of Manassas, Virginia, pleaded guilty today before U.S. District Judge Deborah K. Chasanow to second degree murder of Air Force Lieutenant Jennifer Gardine and agreed to be sentenced to 39 years imprisonment.

In a statement of facts provided to the court as part of the plea agreement, Chaney admitted that on November 26, 2001 she beat and stabbed Lt. Gardine to death in the kitchen of Lt. Gardine's home on Andrews Air Force Base. After stabbing Lt. Gardine four times, Chaney took Lt. Gardine's infant son from the home and walked to her nearby car. Passersby ensured Chaney did not leave the scene, as she had blood on her arms and hands. Chaney planted a fake suicide note at the scene of the murder and provided false statements to FBI investigators. Chaney acknowledged that she was emotionally distraught at the time of the killing because shortly before the murder, a man romantically linked to both

Chaney and Lt. Gardine had announced his intention of ending his relationship with Chaney in order to better care for Lt. Gardine's son.

The sentencing hearing is scheduled for July 7, 2003.

The case is a result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys James M. Trusty and Donna C. Sanger.